

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image-recording apparatus which divides a complete image larger in width than a recording-medium into a plurality of images and, records the divided
5 images on a plurality of recording-media, comprising:

image recording assembly that has a recording-head to record an image on the recording-medium, and a recording-medium-carrying mechanism to carry the recording-medium relatively to the recording-head; and
10 a control section that has an image-processing section to subject image data to image processing, and controls the image recording assembly,

wherein the image-processing section divides the image data indicative of the complete image into a
15 plurality of image data pieces indicative of divided images, detects two adjoining divided-images that individually have a joint portion and adjoin each other at the respective joint portions, in the divided images indicated by the divided image data pieces and rotates
20 one of the adjoining divided-images so as to make a recording direction of one of the adjoining divided-images opposite to a recording direction of the other adjoining divided-image,

the control section controls the image recording
25 assembly so that a recording medium carries in one direction during recording all divided-images,

the divided images are recorded on the respective

recording-media one by one to form a plurality of
output images,

and the plurality of output images configure one
complete image.

5 2. The image-recording apparatus according to
claim 1, wherein the control section controls the image
recording assembly so that the joint portions of the
divided images on the adjacent recording media lie at
the same position with respect to the width direction
10 of the media.

3. The image-recording apparatus according to
claim 1, wherein the image-processing section divides
the image data of the complete image in a width
direction thereof based on a maximum recordable width
15 according to a recording-medium used for recording.

4. The image-recording apparatus according to
claim 3, wherein when the image-processing section
divides the image data of the complete image based on
the maximum recordable width, the number of the divided
20 image data of the divided images is odd excluding 1,
and there is divided image data of a width smaller than
a width corresponding to the maximum recordable width,
the image-processing section divides at least one of
the image data of the divided images into two
25 substantially at a center to set the number of divided
image data to be even.

5. The image-recording apparatus according to

claim 1, wherein the image-processing section divides the image data of the complete image into a predetermined number so that the divided images are uniform in width.

5 6. The image-recording apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the predetermined number of divided image data is even.

 7. The image-recording apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the image-processing section changes
10 in magnification the image data of the divided images so that a width of each divided images to be recorded is substantially equal to a width of a largest recording-medium of used recording-media.

 8. The image-recording apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the image-processing section compares
15 the width of the divided image to be recorded with a maximum recordable width according to a used recording-medium, and

 when the width of the divided image is large,
20 image-processing section increases the number of divided image data, and divide the image data of the complete image.

 9. The image-recording apparatus according to claim 5, wherein when a plurality of recording-media
25 different in maximum recording width are selectively used, the control section compares the width of the each divided images with a maximum recordable width

according to each recording-medium, selects a recording-medium that margin is smallest, and records each divided image by using the recording-medium.

10. The image-recording apparatus according to
5 claim 1, wherein the control section controls the image recording assembly so as to decide the divided image to be recorded first, and to sequentially record the divided images from the image nearest the first recorded divided image in arrangement of the image
10 data.

11. The image-recording apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the image recording assembly is controlled so as to obtain the number of divided images between each divided image and the divided image to be
15 recorded first in the width direction, and to start recording from a divided image that has a small number of divided images between itself and the divided image to be recorded first.

12. The image-recording apparatus according to
20 claim 1, wherein the image-processing section obtains position information of the image data of the divided images in the width direction, and the control section controls the image recording assembly so as to record the divided images and the position information
25 corresponding to the divided images on each recording-mediums.

13. An image forming method which divides a

complete image larger in width than a recording-medium
into a plurality of images, and records the divided
images on a plurality of recording-media, comprising:

detecting two adjoining divided-images,

5 recording one divided image from above and the
other divided image from bottom among divided images
corresponding to divided image data of image data of
the complete image recorded on the recording-media.

14. An image forming method which divides a
10 complete image larger in width than a recording-medium
into a plurality of images, and record the divided
images on a plurality of recording-media, comprising:

 dividing image data of the complete image into
a plurality of divided image data so as to become such
15 an image width that the image is recorded on the
recording-medium; and

 recording divided images so that joined portions
of two divided images to be joined to each other are at
one position in a width direction of the recording-
20 medium.

15. An image forming method which divides a
complete image larger in width than a recording-medium
into a plurality of images, connects a plurality of
recording-media so as to be formed the complete image
25 by connecting the plurality of divided images, and
mutually connects both ends of the complete image,
comprising:

dividing the complete image into an even number;
detecting two divided-images corresponding to both
ends of the complete image, to join each other, and
setting one of the two divided-images so as to
5 make a recording direction of one of the adjoining
divided-images opposite to a recording direction of the
other two divided-images, and to be located the joint
portions of the two divided-images on one position in
a width direction of a recording-medium.

- 10 16. An image processing program which causes
an arithmetic unit to realize:
an image acquisition function to obtain image data
of a complete image;
an image division function to divide the image
15 data of the complete image into a plurality of divided
image data pieces in at least one direction;
an image selection function to select every other
divided image data to be processed in one predetermined
direction;
20 an image rotation function to rotate the selected
divided image data by about 180°; and
an image-recording apparatus control function to
control an image-recording apparatus so that each
divided image data may be recorded on one recording-
25 medium.